



Wisconsin FoodShare Outreach Network



FoodShare Wisconsin: Get the Facts!

FoodShare is Wisconsin's name for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly called Food Stamps. It's easier than ever before to qualify for nutrition benefits!

- **FoodShare is *not* welfare.** It is a nutrition assistance program through the USDA. Also, using FoodShare benefits is a boon to the local economy. The USDA estimates that every \$5 spent in FoodShare benefits generates up to \$9 in economic activity throughout the community where it is spent.
- **FoodShare benefits are for everyone who meets program rules,** including eligible single adults, elderly, people with disabilities and families.
- **Anyone who is eligible and applies *will* get benefits.** Benefits do not get taken away from someone else if when others receive benefits.
- **Nearly 40% of adults who receive FoodShare benefits *are* employed.**
- **A person may still be eligible for FoodShare while receiving unemployment, SSI, SSDI, social security, or other types of income.** Eligibility is based on household income and size.
- **Assets are *not* a determining factor in eligibility.** A person may still be eligible even if they own a car or home.
- **No one needs to go to a state or county office for the initial application, interview, or follow-up.** Everything can either be done by phone or online at <https://access.wisconsin.gov>.
- **FoodShare uses an electronic card that looks and works just like a debit card, meaning others will not know you are using this benefit.** Paper coupons are no longer used.
- **FoodShare benefits *do not* have to be paid back.**
- **Homeless individuals or people without a permanent address can still get FoodShare.** They still must provide a mailing address, but most county offices will allow a person to use that address for their case. Also, applicants must be a resident of Wisconsin to qualify.
- **FoodShare program information is completely private and confidential.** It will not be shared with child support agencies, immigration offices or anyone else.
- **If benefits aren't spent in the month they are issued, they *do not* go away.** Benefits can be saved for up to one year.
- **A person *does not* have to speak English to apply for and receive FoodShare.** The application is available in Spanish and translation services are available.
- **If someone in the household is not a legal resident, they are not eligible, but *others in the home may still be eligible*, including children.**

SWIPE OUT HUNGER!

For more information, contact Gina Wilson at GinaW@shfbmadison.org or 608-216-7213.